

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0041

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: KYRIANOU'S POLICY STATEMENT PITCHED TO LOWEST COMMON
DENOMINATOR

REF: NICOSIA 0029 (DTG 041555Z JAN 78)

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1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU PITCHED HIS POLICY STATEMENT
(REFTEL) TO LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR OF ELECTORATE,
GIVING AN IMPRESSION OF INABILITY TO BREAK OUT OF
STERILE, HARD-LINE ATTITUDES. PERHAPS UNDERSTANDABLY,
SINCE IT WAS AN ELECTIONEERING DOCUMENT, STATEMENT
SEEMED TO BE DESIGNED TO OFFEND NO SIGNIFICANT PART OF
ELECTORATE, TO TAKE NO POSITION WHICH COULD BE

SUCCESSFULLY ATTACKED, TO BREAK NO NEW GROUND. KYPRIANOU MADE NO IMPORTANT POINT WHICH HE COULD NOT DOCUMENT BY CITING MAKARIOS. THE RESULT PORTRAYED ITS AUTHOR AS A TWO-DIMENSIONAL MAKARIOS, REPEATING THE ARCHBISHOP'S SLOGANS BUT LACKING HIS FLEXIBILITY OR IMAGINATION. KYPRIANOU SPOKE OF THE PAINFUL CONCESSION MADE BY GREEK CYPRIOTS ON THE QUESTION OF FEDERATION BUT IGNORED MAKARIOS' ACCEPTANCE OF BIZONALITY; HE INSISTED ON THE THREE MAKARIOS PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, SETTLEMENT, AND RIGHT TO PROPERTY BUT DID NOT MENTION MAKARIOS' ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT IN PRACTICAL TERMS THESE PRINCIPLES WOULD NOT RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT GREEK PRESENCE IN THE TURKISH ZONE. KYPRIANOU EMPHASIZED EASILY DOCUMENTED MAKARIOS POSITIONS WITHOUT DISPLAYING THE LATTER'S ABILITY POLITICALLY TO EDUCATE THE ELECTORATE TO THE FURTHER SACRIFICES WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT.

2. NET EFFECT OF KYPRIANOU'S STATEMENT IS NEGATIVE AND RETROGRADE. IT DOES NOT CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ITS GENERAL TONE AND EMPHASIS ON THE "LONG STRUGGLE" WILL OFFEND THE TURKISH SIDE, WHICH WILL SEE IN IT CONFIRMATION OF THEIR BELIEF THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE NOT WILLING TO RECOGNIZE TURKISH COMMUNITY RIGHTS. KYPRIANOU'S REMARK THAT "TURKEY MUST BE MADE TO AGREE" TO PROCEDURES FOR TRACING MISSING

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PERSONS, PRESUMABLY TO THE MAINLAND, WILL COMPLICATE OUR EFFORTS TO SET UP MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE. AMONG GREEK COMMUNITY, TONE OF THE STATEMENT WILL ENCOURAGE THOSE WHO DEMAND PURSUIT OF THE LONG STRUGGLE TO REESTABLISH GREEK DOMINATION OF THE ISLAND AND WILL DISCOURAGE MODERATES WHO SEEK A SOLUTION THROUGH NEGOTIATION.

3. MANY OF KYPRIANOU'S MODERATE SUPPORTERS MAKE THE POINT THAT HE SHOULD NOT BE JUDGED BY STATEMENTS MADE IN RESPONSE TO DEMANDS OF THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, THAT AS PRESIDENT IN HIS OWN RIGHT HE WILL DISPLAY QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP DENIED TO HIM BY THE IMPERATIVE TO GET ELECTED. THERE MAY BE SOMETHING TO THIS ARGUMENT. THE DANGER, HOWEVER IS THAT HE WILL BE CAUGHT IN A WEB OF STATEMENTS AND POSITIONS WHICH HE WILL LACK THE STRENGTH TO BREAK AFTER ELECTION.

CRAWFORD

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